

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented): A formulation for topical applications comprising:
antimicrobial pigment particles obtainable by agitating a suspension comprising one or more inorganic pigments and silver oxide, in order to reduce undesirable side-effects caused by microorganisms, wherein said pigment particles are prepared by agitating said suspension of inorganic pigments with silver oxide at a temperature between 10°C and 60°C; and
one or more cosmetically or dermatologically suitable vehicles,
wherein the amount of said silver oxide is 0.01 to 0.5% by weight, based on the total weight of the inorganic pigment, and the Hunter model L, a and b values of said pigment particles with silver oxide are: $-6 \leq \Delta L \leq 6$, $-5 \leq \Delta a \leq 5$, and $-5 \leq \Delta b \leq 5$.
2. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said undesirable side-effects caused by microorganisms are dandruffs, acne and/or malodor.
3. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is in the form of a solution, suspension, emulsion, paste, ointment, gel, cream, lotion, powder, oil, pencil, deodorant-cream, deodorant gel, deodorant lotion, deodorant emulsion, deodorant stick, roll-on deodorant, deodorant spray, deodorant pump spray, or lacquer.
4. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation comprises at least one compound selected from suitable substrates for microorganisms.
5. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 4, wherein said at least one compound is an alkane, an alkene, an alkyne, a sugar, a polyol, an alcohol, a saturated or unsaturated carboxylic acid, a protein, an amino acid, water, a fatty acid, a wax, a fat, a mineral oil, a salt, a hormone, a steroid, or a vitamin.

6. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said inorganic pigment particles are platelet-shaped, spherical or needle-shaped.

7. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, said inorganic pigment is an inorganic white pigment, an inorganic colored pigment, an inorganic black pigment, an effect pigment, a luminous pigment, magnesium carbonate, mica, SiO₂, TiO₂, aluminium oxide, glass, micaceous iron oxide, oxidized graphite, aluminium oxide-coated graphite, basic lead carbonate, barium sulphate, chromium oxide, or MgO.

8. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 7, wherein said effect pigments are based on substrates.

9. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 8, wherein the substrates of said effect pigments are natural mica, synthetic mica, SiO₂, TiO₂, BiOCl, Aluminium oxide, glass, micaceous iron oxide, graphite, oxidized graphite, aluminium oxide coated graphite, basic lead carbonate, barium sulphate, chromium oxide, BN, MgO, magnesium fluoride, Si₃N₄, or metals.

10. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 9, wherein the substrates of said effect pigments additionally are coated with one or more layers of BiOCl and/or transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides, and/or mixtures of these materials.

11. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 10, wherein said one or more layers of BiOCl and/or transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides, and/or mixtures of these materials, are arranged as alternating layers of:

transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides and/or mixtures of these materials or BiOCl with a

refractive index $n > 1.8$, and

transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides and/or mixtures of these materials with a refractive index $n < 1.8$.

12. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 10, wherein the outer layer of the inorganic pigment comprises a material which is a transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxide, metal suboxide, metal oxide hydrate, or mixture of these materials.

13. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 10, wherein said one or more layers of transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides and/or mixtures of these materials additionally contain organic and/or inorganic colorants or elements as dopant.

14. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said inorganic pigment comprises spherical particles or spherical capsules of metal oxides, BiOCl, magnesium carbonate, graphite, oxidized graphite, aluminium oxide-coated graphite, basic lead carbonate, barium sulphate, BN, magnesium fluoride, Si_3N_4 , metals, or combinations thereof.

15. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 14, wherein said spherical particles or capsules are coated with one or more layers of transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides, and/or mixtures of these materials.

16. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said inorganic pigments are additionally coated with a protective coating layer.

17. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 16, wherein said protective coating is made of silica, silicates, borosilicates, aluminosilicates, alumina, aluminum phosphate, or mixtures thereof.

18. (Cancelled):

19. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 18, wherein said formulation additionally comprises preservatives and antimicrobial agents.

20. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprise at least one antibiotic.

21. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 20, wherein said at least one antibiotic is beta-lactam, vancomycin, a macrolide, a tetracycline, a quinolone, a fluoroquinolone, a nitrated compound, an aminoglycoside, a phenicol, a lincosamid, a synergistin, fosfomycin, fusidic acid, an oxazolidinone, a rifamycin, a polymixyne, a gramicidin, tyrocidine, a glycopeptide, a sulfonamide, or a trimethoprim.

22. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 21, wherein said formulation additionally comprises one or more UV filters.

23. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprises at least one self-tanning agent.

24. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprises dyes and colored pigments.

25. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprises at least one antioxidant.

26. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprises vitamins.

27. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprises skin-protecting or skin-care active ingredients.

28. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprises at least one photostabilizer.

29. (Withdrawn): A process for the preparation of a formulation according to claim 1, comprising:

agitating a suspension comprising one or more inorganic pigments and silver oxide, and

mixing the pigment a) with one or more cosmetically or dermatologically suitable vehicles.

30. (Withdrawn): A method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of acne, comprising applying to skin a formulation according to claim 1.

31. (Withdrawn): A method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of dandruffs, comprising applying a formulation according to claim 1.

32. (Withdrawn): A method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of malodor, comprising applying a formulation according to claim 1.

33. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is in the form of a cream which further comprises at least one customary excipient, and said at least one customary excipient is an animal fat, vegetable fat, wax, paraffin, starch, tragacanth, polyethylene glycol, silicone, bentonite, silica, talc, or zinc oxide.

34. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension at a temperature between 20°C and 45°C.

35. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension from 4 up to 24 hours.

36. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension from 8 to 20 hours.

37. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension from 10 to 18 hours.

38. (Cancelled):

39. (Cancelled):

40. (Cancelled):

41. (Cancelled):

42. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the Hunter model L, a and b values of said pigment particles with silver oxide are: $-4 \leq \Delta L \leq 4$, $-3 \leq \Delta a \leq 3$, and $-3 \leq \Delta b \leq 3$.

43. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the amount of said pigment particles in said formulation is 0.1 to 70% by weight, based on the total weight of the formulation.

44. (Cancelled):

45. (Previously Presented): The formulation according to claim 1, wherein the color of inorganic pigment, before being combing with silver, and the color of resultant antimicrobial pigment are the same.